



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

June 7, 2017

Dear Superintendents and Principals:

The State of South Carolina maintains a file of emerging classroom leaders that consists of a cadre of distinguished teachers and principals. These educators may be considered for membership on advisory boards and task forces, as well as candidates for special recognition programs. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and state and who may also ultimately receive recognition for their contributions and achievements.

We are very fortunate to have a rich base of veteran educators represented in our current talent pool. They have been and continue to be a valuable resource in our state efforts. What is particularly lacking at this time is representation from educators relatively new to the profession who demonstrate unusual instructional and leadership ability. Such persons exhibit strong potential for professional leadership and inspiring presence that impacts students, colleagues, and community.

Do you know a relatively new educator that is illustrative not only of our state's, but also the nation's best? Whose lessons provide models for others? Who has distinguished him/herself above and beyond established top-quality professionals in many of our schools? A minimum of five years in education is a must. Candidates are building-level personnel. They are typically classroom teachers and are recognized by peers and supervisors as unique in their leadership and results with students. Occasionally a principal or specialist is considered. Of special interest are educators who are outstanding, and have not received other recognition.

Please provide CONFIDENTIAL, succinct, and specific information for one or two candidates on the enclosed form. All questions must be answered, preferably typewritten. Please include a one-page narrative with this form that addresses how the candidate meets the criteria mentioned in this letter, and also a resume from their personnel file. We ask that you keep this recommendation confidential and do not share it with the individual. I urge you to take the time to recommend candidates. If necessary, please assign the request to an associate. Complete information must be sent by June 30, 2017 to: Regina Urueta, rurueta@ed.sc.gov. Your cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly M. Spearman".

Molly Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

Talent Pool Recommendation Form

We invite you to recommend distinguished classroom teachers and/or principals who have demonstrated all of the following:

- Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school;
- Exemplary educational accomplishments beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession;
- Individuals whose contributions to education are largely unheralded yet worthy of the spotlight;
- Early- to mid-career educators who offer strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and
- Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community.

Please complete a separate form for each individual including a one-page letter explaining how this person meets the criteria outlined in this letter. Please include a resume for each recommendation.

Incomplete forms will be eliminated from this process.

THIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL PROCESS.

INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT BE AWARE OF THIS RECOMMENDATION.

Name of Recommended Educator: _____

Classroom Teacher _____ Principal _____ Other (specify) : _____

For teachers, grade(s) currently teaching: _____ For principals, grade levels in building: _____

____ Reading/English/Language Arts ____ Science ____ Mathematics
____ Social Studies ____ Fine Arts
____ Foreign Language (please specify): _____ ____ Other (please specify): _____

Total Years in Education: _____ If a principal, number of years as an administrator: _____

Will this person be at the same school site next year? _____

School District: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

Street City State Zip
School Phone: (____) _____ Ext: _____ School Fax: (____) _____

Educator's Supervisor: _____
Name Title

Supervisor's Phone: (____) _____ Ext: _____ Supervisor's Fax: (____) _____

Supervisor's Email: _____

RATE educator from 1-10 (10 being highest) on the following four criteria and provide a paragraph to explain your rating. **Be detailed and thorough, with specific examples whenever possible.**

1. _____ Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school.

2. _____ Exemplary educational accomplishments beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession. Include committees, mentoring, awards, publications, presentations.

3. _____ Strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership, i.e., predict the educator's potential to remain in education **for at least 25 more years** and demonstrate leadership in the profession.

4. _____ Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community. Do students perform at higher levels due to the educator, pursue certain careers, credit their success to the educator, etc.?

Cite evidence of student achievement gains as a result of the educator's practices:

Cite awards the educator has received:

Other comments:

Education

Schools Attended

Degrees

Graduation Years

Indicate ethnicity of educator being recommended:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Indian or Alaska Native |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

Please list the names and phone numbers of three professional references other than you for the educator.
We may call and talk to them. They should know the educator currently and very well.

Name	Title	() Phone (W)	() Phone (H)	Email
<hr/>				
<hr/>				

Name	Title	Phone (W)	Phone (H)	Email
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_____	_____	(____)	(____)	_____
Name	Title	Phone (W)	Phone (H)	Email

_____	_____	(____)	(____)	_____
YOUR Name	Title	Phone (W)	Phone (H)	
Email				

Return completed letter(s) and form(s) by June 30, 2017, to:

Regina Urueta

rurueta@ed.sc.gov